

The French Broad Hustler

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WILL TAKE THE LEAD.

The spirit of the Democrats of Western North Carolina this year is in keeping with the spirit that has characterized those stalwart men during all the years when North Carolina has been kept in the Democratic column for good government. This spirit is well expressed in a recent letter from Mr. W. O. Connor, of Mars Hill, who says: "Whoever the Republicans may nominate the Democratic ticket will win by a handsome majority and Western North Carolina will show Mr. Kitchin that, although we fought him in the convention for all there was in it, we are, to a man, loyal to him and to the entire ticket now."

This expresses the feeling that was uppermost in the convention in Jackson county where Hon. Locke Craig made a masterly and eloquent speech, the first elaborate speech made in the campaign of 1908 by any man. Mr. Craig and all his men are Democrats of the Vance type and will do as much for the election of the ticket as the Democrats of Person or Johnston or any other section of the State.—News and Observer.

Yes, the "stalwart" mountaineers are always loyal and usually take the lead in every political contest. They possess fighting qualities and have the courage of their convictions. We have to fight for our lives up here, but do not mind it. Heretofore the enemy has confronted us on the open field and fought like brave men should. This year, however, we shall have to go to the woods after them. "Bush-whacking" is a new game for democrats, but they are going to run the cowards down at all hazards, even if it becomes necessary to go into the "tall timbers" after them.

If there is any disaffection in this part of the country on account of Mr. Kitchin's nomination, we have been unable to locate it. Our people were disappointed in not landing their candidate, but every democrat, in this "neck o' the woods," prefers W. W. Kitchin, for governor, to any man the republicans can name. We have not forgotten the unsavory records of the few republican administrations in North Carolina and do not care to take chances on another one. The folks up here are for Bill Bryan, Bill Crawford and Bill Kitchin, the trio of "Willies" whom the party has decreed shall lead us to victory this year.

It looks like Bryan this year. Democrats appear to be united as "never before," since 1884 and 1892, when Cleveland "swept the country."

Labor leaders all over the country are declaring themselves for Bryan and the support of the labor people means a great deal in doubtful states like New York, Indiana, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, California and Missouri.

Anyway, the democratic party will not be called upon to defend that "Cleveland panic" this year. On the subject of panics republican orators are dumb in forty-seven languages.

That same John Temple Graves who declared for Roosevelt last year and wanted Bryan to make the nominating speech is now appearing in a new role, being the candidate for vice-president on Hearst's Independence League ticket.

NEW YORK FOR BRYAN

Present conditions in New York are decidedly encouraging to democrats and point to a sweeping victory for Bryan and Kern in the Empire State at the November election. Democratic State Chairman W. J. Conners is entirely confident of such a result and says:

"There is no question about New York State which will give pluralities of anywhere from 75,000 to 100,000 to Bryan. More than that, Erie county will go Democratic by a large plurality, which will be the first time that county has gone Democratic in a Presidential election since 1892 when Cleveland carried it by a plurality of ninety. Bryan is gaining strength daily."

The opinion of Chairman Conners is concurred in by National Chairman Norman E. Mack, who, upon his return to Chicago from an eastern trip recently, said of the outlook in New York State:

"The situation as I found it in the State, and in fact in all the Eastern States, has been most gratifying. The responsiveness of the Democratic leaders in the East to the call of duty denotes a campaign that will be fought vigorously to a successful conclusion. Plans are in contemplation for a forceful campaign throughout the country, but of those I can say nothing at this time. All parts of the country is our battle ground, and no one section will be neglected. Everything augurs well for the election of William J. Bryan."

This sounds mighty good and with the active support of Judge Parker, Herman Ridder, Thos. F. Murphy, David B. Hill and other democratic leaders the electoral vote of New York can be captured for Bryan and Kern. The democrats elected their state ticket last year, with the exception of Hearst, the candidate for governor, and it is entirely probable that Mr. Bryan will carry the state at the approaching election. Indications point that way.

"GOSPEL TRUTH."

The Rutherfordton Sun speaks wisely and truthfully in last week's issue regarding party loyalty. It puts it this way:

"As the heavens are high above the earth, so is a moral above a mere legal duty. No sane man can take part in a primary without assuming its consequent obligations. He can stay out of it if he wish. Even then, if he choose to forego his rights and leave party choice to his party associates, there is a claim that party loyalty presses upon him, to be governed by the properly ascertained wish of his party fellows. But for the man who votes in a primary—who pools his chances or those of his friends in this party method of testing popularity, there is no escape from submission to its results, whatever they may be. To act otherwise, is to stifle conscience—and just so sure as that truth is truth because God is God, the man who does it is a striped and shaven convict at the bar of his own soul; and however he may hide it from men, will wear the remainder of his life a ball and chain, unless God forgive him.

Defeat is nothing—the best of men suffer that in the pursuit of the very highest public or private ends, and no disgrace attaches. Indeed there is no cause for personal discouragement or humiliation.

But position won by the use of questionable methods is a success that sours, and will in the end bring its deserved disgrace. The clean way is the only safe way."

Just so. The man who becomes disgruntled because he or some friend gets defeated for an office and "kicks out of the traces" can never feel right about it afterwards. If he is loyal to principle the only proper course is cheerful submission to the choice of the majority. Principle and not men should govern the action of every individual at the ballot box and personal differences ought never enter into the calculation after nominations are made. Those who participate in primaries are, in duty, bound to abide by the result. The Sun is right.

CRAIG ALL RIGHT.

In a recent issue of the Raleigh News and Observer the following appeared:

"With regard to the opening of the campaign in the Tenth district last week with a speech by Mr. Locke Craig at Webster, Jackson county, a special to The Asheville Citizen said he was given an ovation such as was never accorded there to an active candidate, and The Waynesville Courier says that on his return from Webster he was entertained at a largely attended public reception at Waynesville. The Hendersonville Hustler says that he is 'showing the spirit of a true Democrat' and that when he 'pledged his support to the Democratic ticket named at Charlotte in a really great speech to the State convention, he meant every word he uttered.'"

If every man in North Carolina who calls himself a democrat would show his faith by his works, as Locke Craig always does the republicans would have to go out of business in nearly every county. Mr. Craig is not a democrat for revenue or political preferment, but because he believes in democratic principles. He is one of the most unselfish servants of the party in the State and will yet be rewarded for the faithful services he has so cheerfully rendered for the past twenty years in every campaign.

TIDE TO BRYAN.

Pretty nearly every day now brings forth disquieting news to republican leaders and further strengthens the hope of democrats for the success of their national ticket in the fall election. Democratic leaders from every section of the country report favorable conditions, while Taft adherents appear to be uneasy. The latest expression of confidence, by a prominent democratic leader, is the following utterance, in Chicago on Thursday, from former Vice-President Adlai E. Stevenson, who being so hopeful this year he wants to be nominated for governor of his State:

"The Bryan sentiment is stronger in Illinois than it has ever been. He is now the candidate of a united party for the first time, and the prospects of his election are excellent. In my opinion Illinois will go Democratic. Assurances come to me from every part of the State."

Another hopeful Bryan supporter is Senator Bob Taylor, of Tennessee. While on a recent visit to the Nebraskan's home, the Senator gave out the following:

"I have been in Kansas, Missouri and Indiana, and to my mind Bryan has a better chance for election than Cleveland did in 1892. I found many Republicans in Kansas who told me they would vote for Bryan, and as for Indiana, the prospects for Democratic success are good."

But far more significant than the published expression of any individual is the following resolution recently adopted by the great Central Labor Union of Washington, D. C.:

"Resolved by the Central Labor Union in regular session assembled, That it support the stand taken by President Gompers and his fellow officers of the American Federation of Labor in his opposition to William H. Taft for the Presidency, and call upon all law-abiding and honest workingmen of the country to use their best endeavors in the interest of William J. Bryan, to the end that he may be inaugurated President of our Republic the 4th day of next March, not as a Democrat, but as a man friendly to organized labor and standing on a platform, which he freely approves, favorable to organized labor and the wage-earners of the United States regardless of affiliations."

Mr. Gompers was present at

the meeting and made a personal appeal to the members in behalf of the democratic national ticket, being frequently applauded as he referred to the Denver convention's attitude toward the laboring men of the country. He urged every one to support Mr. Bryan, not as a democrat, but as the exponent of a platform which guaranteed the protection of the interests of organized and unorganized labor.

Let the Bryan procession go forward.

"Editor Don Laws, of the Yellow Jacket, semi-monthly Republican paper published at Moravian Falls, Wilkes county, has gone to New York to confer with Chairman Hitchcock and tell him that the Yellow Jacket has fifty thousand circulation in the doubtful States. Laws expressed fear of a landslide to Bryan in November, that the present situation is by no means satisfactory to the Republican party.—Winston-Salem Dispatch.

The McDowell Democrat says: "By special invitation of the Democratic county executive committee Hon. Locke Craig, of Asheville, will make the formal opening speech of the campaign of 1908 in McDowell. The county convention will be held here on August 22nd and Mr. Craig has accepted the invitation to address the convention. Mr. Craig is considered by many as the best and most eloquent orator of the state and McDowell is fortunate to have this distinguished speaker, who is loved by all who know him best, with us on that day. He will discuss issues and his message will be well worth hearing."

Twyford's Suit.

The case of Lawyer Henry Twyford against A. J. Miller, of Frankford, Ind. is getting a good airing in the federal court at Asheville.

Several years ago Twyford exchanged a house and lot with \$5,000 in cash for a stock of goods owned by Miller in Indiana.

Twyford alleges that the goods were not what they were represented and he is lawing for damages.

The local parties interested are W. L. Carmichael, W. C. Lyda, J. B. Lyda, J. D. Waldrop and lawyers Smith and Schenck.

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